February 11, 2000

AVOCADOS

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is continued at 850,000 bushels. The forecast was lowered from 900,000 bushels in the November report reflecting loss from Hurricane Irene which passed through the Homestead area October 15.

Shipments to date are 838,700 bushels. Weekly shipments have been slightly over 1,000 bushels in December. Most trees are in

excellent condition as they enter the bloom stage for next season's crop.

CALIFORNIA:. Shipments to date total 748,000 bushel equivalents, slightly more than the 725,000 bushel equivalents shipped to the same time last season. This season's total crop is expected to be 18 percent higher than last.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 1999-00 season, with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through January	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
		Bushels	
Certified:			
1989-90	1,262,500	37,500	1,300,000
1990-91	744,500	7,500	752,000
1991-92	1,091,300	19,700	1,111,000
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000
1993-94	165,500	9,500	175,000
1994-95	762,700	16,300	779,000
1995-96	731,800	12,200	744,000
1996-97	887,800	30,200	918,000
1997-98	935,500	2,500	938,000
1998-99	876,700	14,300	891,000
Estimated:			
1999-00	838,700	11,300	850,000

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1999-00 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

	1998-99	1999-00 season				
Variety	Total shipments	Shipments	Remaining	Estimated		
		through	to be	total		
		January	shipped	shipments		
	Bushels 1/					
Fuerte	103,000	48,000	70,000	118,000		
Hass	4,860,000	484,000	5,252,000	5,736,000		
Other	440,000	216,000	290,000	506,000		
Total	5,403,000	748,000	5,612,000	6,360,000		

^{1/} Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.